

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEMINAR

IS MONEY THE PROBLEM?

GodFirst
Sabbath
Dec. 1, 2018

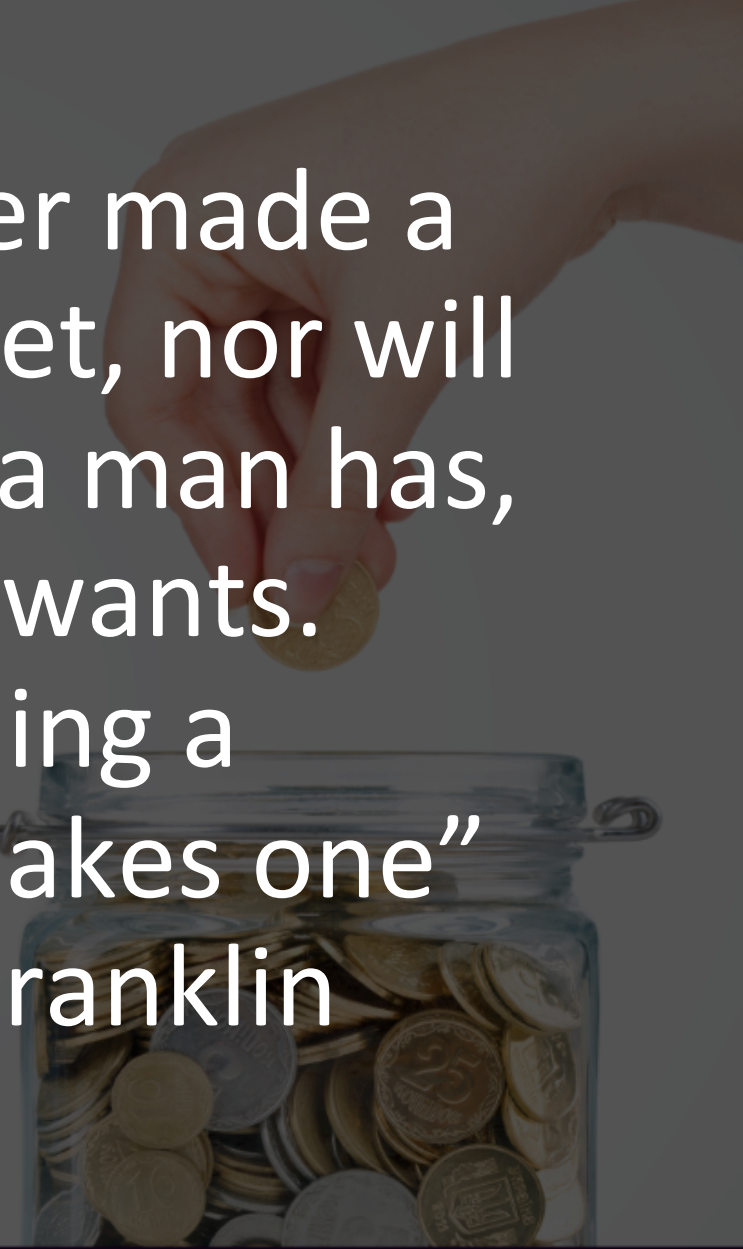


John D. Rockefeller,
Sr., one of the
wealthiest men
who ever lived,
died and left
everything.





“Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of filling a vacuum, it makes one”
– Benjamin Franklin





“Don’t tell me where your priorities are. Show me where you spend your money and I’ll tell you what they are.”
– James W. Frick



“Money...brings you food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; acquaintance, but not friends; servants, but not loyalty; days of joy, but not peace or happiness.”
— Henrik Ibsen



“Money is only a tool. It will take you wherever you wish, but it will not replace you as the driver.” —*Ayn Rand*





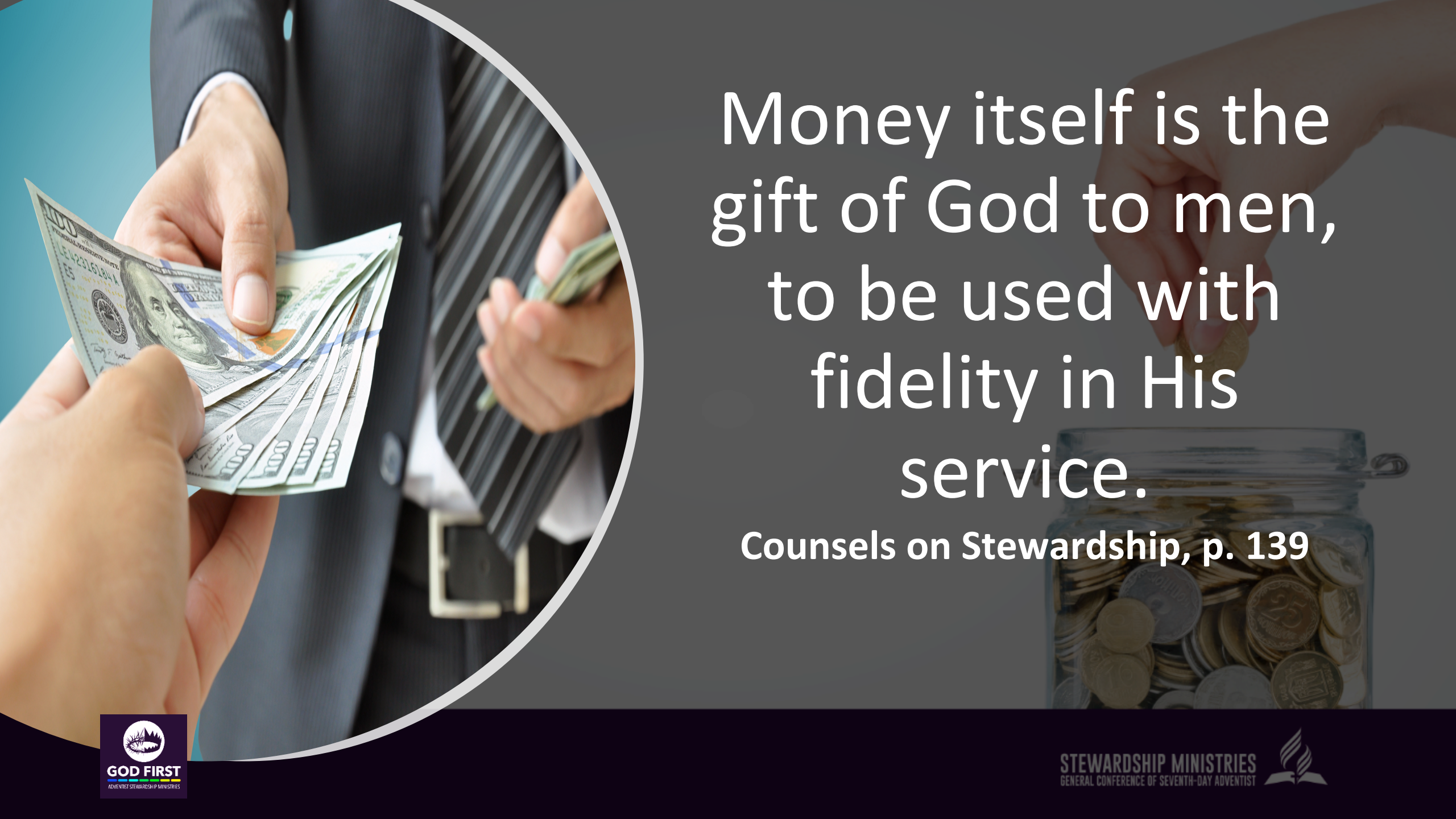
“Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can, in
all the places you can, at
all the times you can, to all
the people you can, as
long as ever you can.”
— John Wesley

Is Money the Problem?



NO,
MONEY IS
NOT THE
PROBLEM!





Money itself is the
gift of God to men,
to be used with
fidelity in His
service.

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 139

Part of the Problem is...



The Love of
this world and
the things in it.

The Love of Money

- Prevents the development of Christian Character. *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 22
- Prevents the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the individual or the church. *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 52
- It holds back the work of God. *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 554
- It contributes to self-gratification. *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 289

“I saw that God could rain means from heaven to carry on his work, but he never would do this. It is contrary to his plan. He has entrusted men on earth with sufficient means to carry forward his work, and if all do their duty there will be no lack.”

2 Spiritual Gifts 267.2





God loves a
cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7



GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST



The Real Problem is **SELFISHNESS**



GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

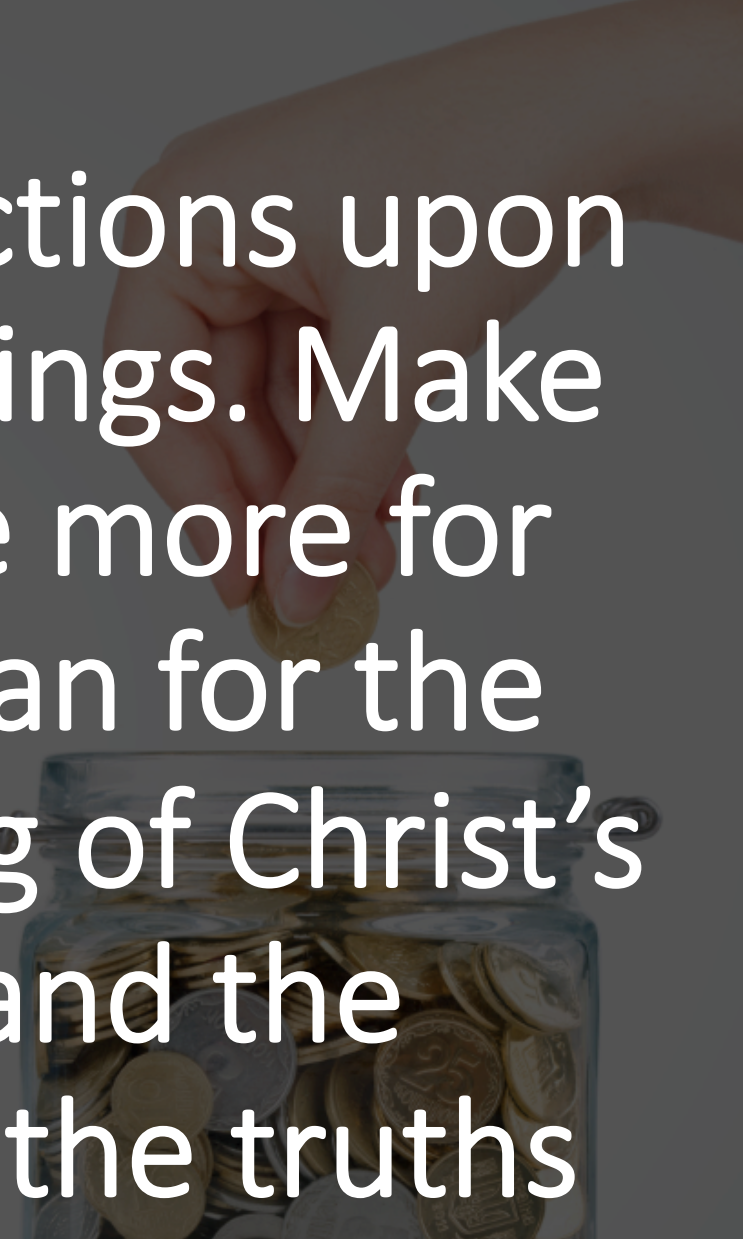




Satan says, “Go, make the possessors of lands and money drunk with the cares of this life. Present the world before them in its most attractive light, that they may lay up their treasure here, and fix



their affections upon earthly things. Make them care more for money than for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom and the spread of the truths



(Matthew 6:19-21, NKJV).

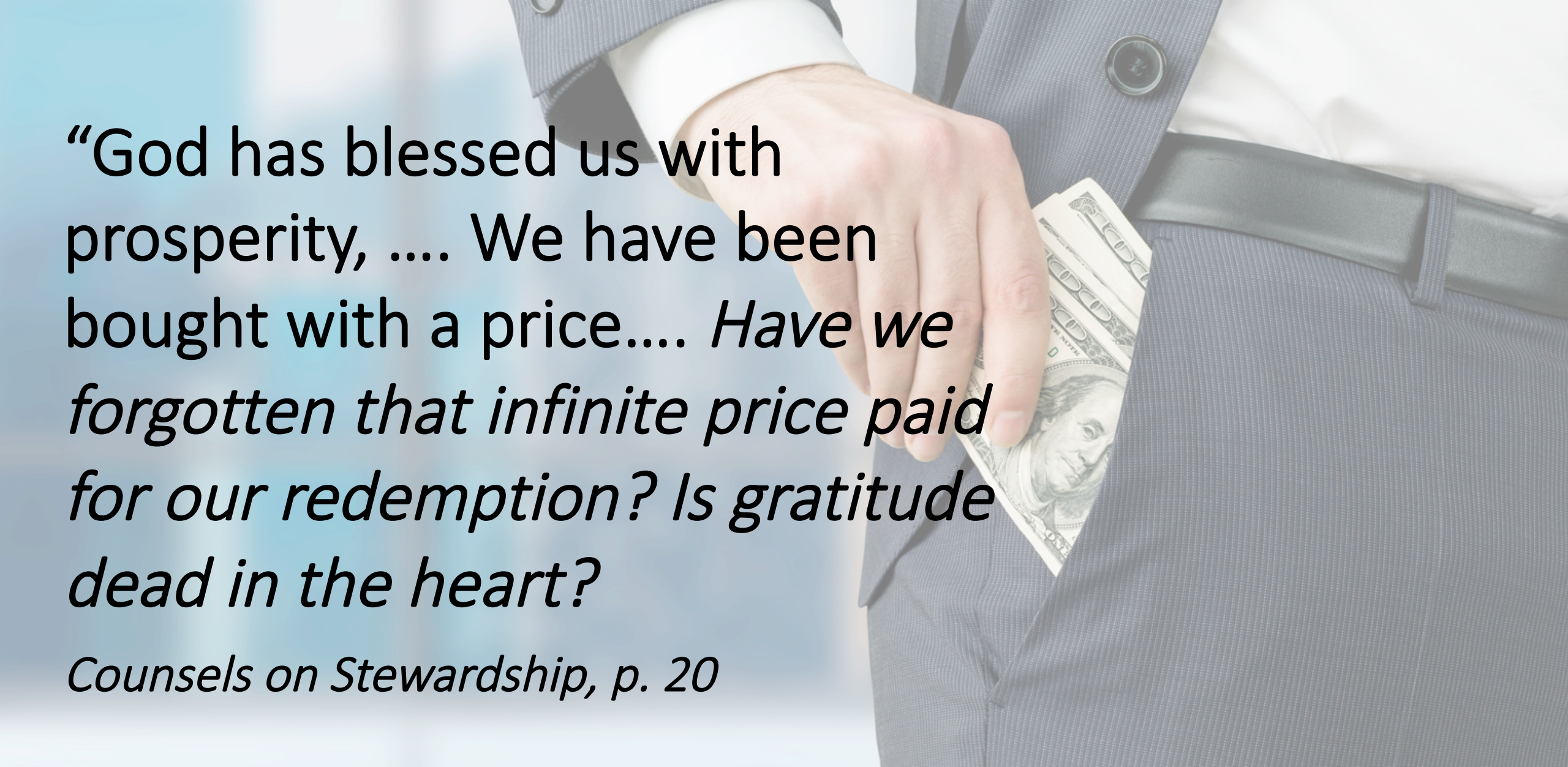
“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves





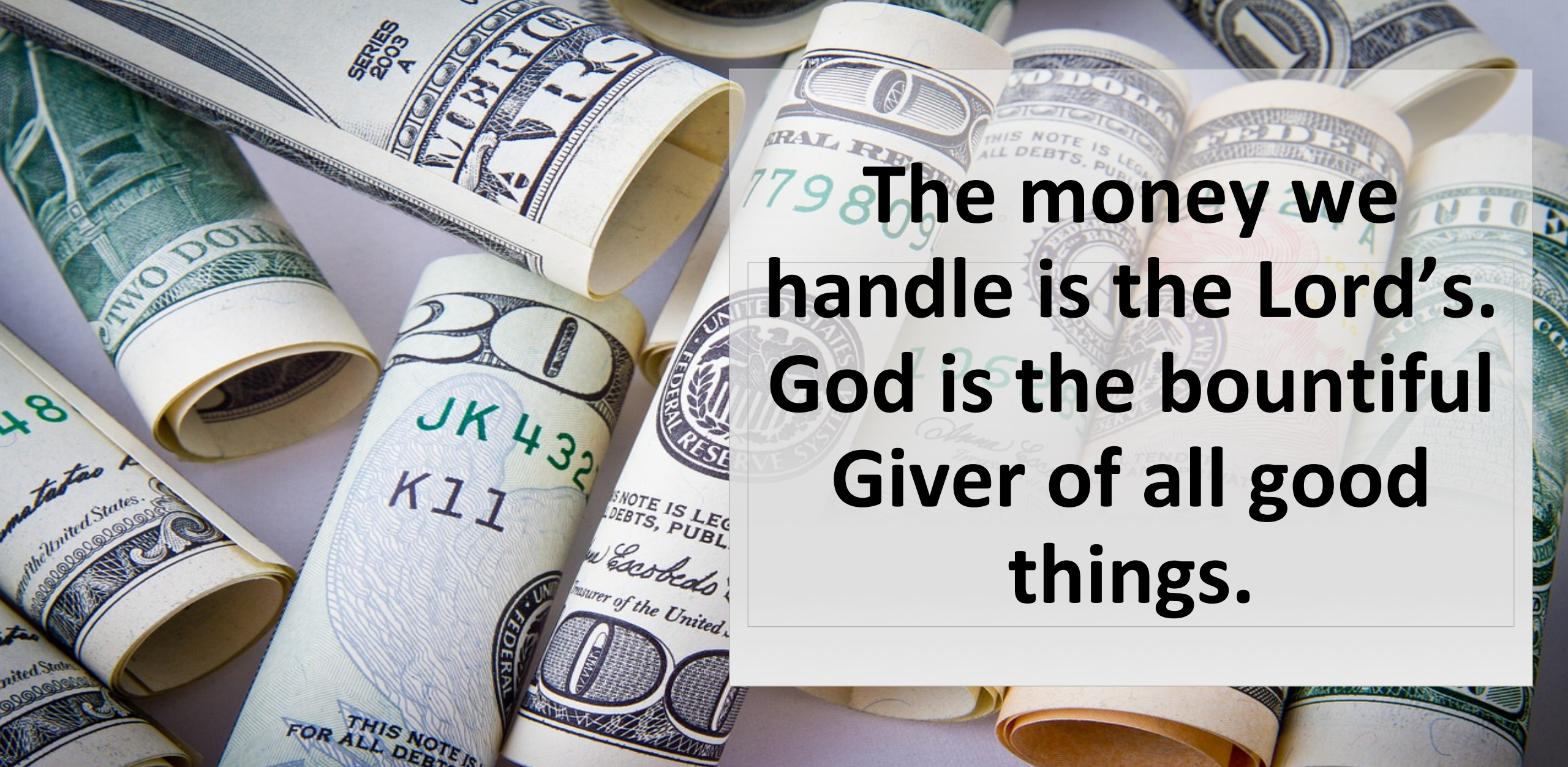
(Matthew 6:19-21, NKJV).

treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a stack of US dollar bills. The person is wearing a grey pinstriped suit jacket over a white shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

“God has blessed us with prosperity, We have been bought with a price.... *Have we forgotten that infinite price paid for our redemption? Is gratitude dead in the heart?*

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 20



**The money we
handle is the Lord's.
God is the bountiful
Giver of all good
things.**



GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST






Money can
be A problem.



**Money is a symbol
of comfort
and status.**





“There are only two places in the universe where we can place our treasures - in God’s storehouse or in Satan’s; and all that is not devoted to God’s service is counted on Satan’s side, and goes to strengthen his cause.”

Counsels on Stewardship, p. 35



MONEY IS NOT
THE
PROBLEM!



“...there is means enough in the hands of believers to amply sustain the work in all its departments without embarrassing any, if all would bear their proportional part.”

Testimonies to the Church, Vol. 3, p. 410

Malachi 3:11, 12

““And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” says the Lord of hosts; “And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,” says the Lord of hosts.”

Decision Time

The Lord suggests us to give proportionally on tithes and offerings.

Have you already decided a percentage to set apart as offerings?

If you have not yet decided, you may decide now.

Commitment Ceremony



GOD FIRST

I PROMISE:



To **SET APART** the first moments of each day to commune with the Lord through **PRAYER**, the **STUDY** of the Bible, Spirit of Prophecy and the Sabbath School lesson, and in **FAMILY WORSHIP**.



To **IMPROVE** my **RELATIONSHIPS**: growing in faithfulness, forgiveness and loving by principle.



To **ESTABLISH** one new **HEALTHY HABIT**, to better serve the Lord with my mind: _____



To **OFFER** one day (or evening) each week to **WORK** for God, spreading the good news to others through Bible Studies, small groups, etc. (TMI).



To **KEEP** the **SABBATH**, preparing for it accordingly on Friday, keeping its limits, right thoughts and activities.



To **FAITHFULLY RETURN** the Lord's **TITHE** (10% of my income).



To **DEDICATE** a percentage (____ %) of my income as a regular **OFFERING** to the Lord.

WITH GOD'S HELP: _____ DATE: _____



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES



GOD FIRST



I PROMISE:



To **SET APART** the first moments of each day to commune with the Lord through **PRAYER**, the **STUDY** of the Bible, Spirit of Prophecy and the Sabbath School lesson, and in **FAMILY WORSHIP**.



To **IMPROVE** my **RELATIONSHIPS**: growing in faithfulness, forgiveness and loving by principle.



GOD FIRST



I PROMISE:



To **ESTABLISH** one new **HEALTHY HABIT**, to better serve the Lord with my mind: _____



To **OFFER** one day (or evening) each week to **WORK** for God, spreading the good news to others through Bible Studies, small groups, etc. (TMI).



To **KEEP** the **SABBATH**, preparing for it accordingly on Friday, keeping its limits, right thoughts and activities.



GOD FIRST



I PROMISE:



To **FAITHFULLY RETURN** the Lord's **TITHE** (10% of my income).



To **DEDICATE** a percentage (____ %) of my income as a regular **OFFERING** to the Lord.



WITH GOD'S HELP: _____ DATE: _____

Will you
trust God
today?

